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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Discher *et al.*

Application No.: 09/460,605

Group Art Unit: 1615

Filed: December 14, 1999

Examiner: G. Kishore

Title: POLYMERSOMES AND RELATED
ENCAPSULATING MEMBRANESRECEIVED
MAY 29 2002
TECH CENTER 1600/2900
Ret. 6-5-02Box RCE
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

This preliminary amendment and response is filed with a Request for Continued Examination of the earlier filed application, filed December 14, 1999. Contained within this Preliminary Amendment is a Response to the Office Action mailed December 20, 2001. The Request for Continued Examination is accompanied by a request for a 2-month extension of time.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 21-22 and 24.

Please amend claims 15-16 as follows:

15. (Twice Amended) A method of using the polymersome vesicle of claim 3, wherein the method comprises:

preparing the polymersome vesicle; and
importing into the polymersome at least one encapsulatable material from the environment immediately surrounding the polymersome, thereby encapsulating the at least one material within the polymersome and removing it from the surrounding environment.

16. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the environment is in a patient, and wherein the method further comprises importing the encapsulatable material to the patient, thereby permitting delivery to the patient.